

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

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S/S:MR SHANKLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 086277

EXDIS EYES ONLY FOR ASST. SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS SENT ACTION SECSTATE 161131Z APR 7.

QUOTE: S E C R E T PARIS 11183

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, US VN

SUBJECT: US/VN RELATIONS; PARIS TALKS

REF: PARIS 10885

1. SRV LIAISON OFFICER DO THANH GAVE EMBOFF AT
11:30 APRIL 16 AN EMBASSY NOTE WITH THE NAMES
OF THE VIETNAMESE "DELEGATION". HE SAID THAT
CONTRARY TO HIS EARLIER IMPRESSION, THE HEAD WILL
BE VICE MINISTER PHAN HIEN FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.
HE IMPLIED HE HAD THOUGHT PHAN HIEN WOULD BE HELD
IN RESERVE FOR A LATER STAGE OF THE TALKS. THE
COMPLETE TEXT OF THE NOTE FOLLOWS IN PARA 2.

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PARA 3 CONTAINS OUR INFORMAL TRANSLATION. FOUR
ORAL POINTS DO THAN WAS ASKED TO MAKE ARE IN PARA 4.

2. AMBASSADE DE LA
REPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE DU VIET NAM
EN FRANCE

L'AMBASSADE DE LA REPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE DU
VIET NAM PRESENTE SES COMPLIMENTS A L'AMBASSADE
DES ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE ET A L'HONNEUR DE PORTER
A SA CONNAISSANCE QUE LA DELEGATION VIETNAMEISE
AUX POURPARLERS DE PARIS QUI AURONT LIEU A PARTIR

DU 3 MAI 1977 SERA CONDUITE PAR M. PHAN HIEN,
VICE-MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES DE LA
REPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE DU VIET NAM.

LES AUTRES MEMBRES DE CETTE DELEGATION SONT:

MM. TRAN QUANG CO
BUI XUAN NINH
NGUYEN MANH CUONG
HA HUY TAM (INTERPRETE).

L'AMBASSADE DE LA REPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE DU
VIET NAM SAISIT CETTE OCCASION POUR RENOUVELER A
L'AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE LES ASSURANCES
DE SA HAUTE CONSIDERATION.

PARIS, LE 16 AVRIL 1977

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
EN FRANCE - P A R I S

3. THE EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
VIET NAM PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY
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OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND HAS THE HONOR
TO INFORM IT THAT THE VIETNAMESE DELEGATION FOR THE
PARIS TALKS WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE STARTING ON MAY 3,
1977 WILL BE HEADED BY MR. PHAN HIEN, VICE-MINISTER
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
VIET NAM.

THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THAT DELEGATION ARE:
MSSRS. TRAN QUANG CO
BUI XUAN NINH
NGUYEN MANH CUONG
HA HUY TAM (INTERPRETER)

THE EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OCCASION TO RENEW TO THE EMBASSY
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ASSURANCES OF ITS
HIGH CONSIDERATION.

PARIS, APRIL 16, 1977

4. DO THANH SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING FOUR POINTS:

A. THE SRV AGREES TO HAVE THE LIAISON OFFICERS MEET NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS THE FORMALITIES FOR THE TALKS. (DO THANH SUGGESTED WE MEET AT 1100 APRIL 20 SINCE HE WILL BE IN BELGIUM AND HOLLAND UNTIL TUESDAY EVENING.)

B. FOR THE FIRST SESSION OF THE TALKS, WE COULD MEET ONE OR TWO DAYS DEPENDING ON CIRCUMSTANCES. THAT IS WE COULD PLAN ON ONE DAY, AND IF A SECOND DAY WERE NEEDED TO COMPLETE THAT STAGE, WE COULD MEET THE SECOND DAY. WE WOULD ALSO BE ABLE AT THAT TIME TO FIX THE DATE FOR THE SECOND SESSION. (DO THANH SAID THAT HANOI PERHAPS HOPED TO DISCUSS MORE INTENSIVELY AND RAPIDLY THAN WE DID SINCE PHAN HIEN AND HIS
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DELEGATION WERE ALL COMING FROM VIETNAM AND WOULD REMAIN IN PARIS BETWEEN EACH SESSION. HE GATHERED THAT THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVES WOULD RETURN TO WASHINGTON AFTER EACH SESSION.)

C. THE SRV DELEGATION WILL HAVE AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE INTERPRETER. THE SRV DELEGATION WAS ALSO PREPARED TO USE FRENCH AS A WORKING LANGUAGE; IT MIGHT BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL IN HANDLING QUICKLY DISCUSSIONS OF ARRANGEMENTS.

D. THE SRV WISHED TO HAVE EACH SIDE FREE TO RECORD THE TALKS. IT EXPECTED THAT WE WOULD WORK UP WRITTEN NOTES WHEN WE WISHED TO MAKE DIFFICULT POINTS COMPLETELY CLEAR.

5. DO THANH SAID THAT THE WHOLE VITENAMESE DELEGATION SHOULD BE KNOWN TO THE U.S. CO IS THE HEAD OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DEPARTMENT AND WAS PART OF THE GROUP WHICH MET WITH WOODCOCK. NINH AND CUONG ARE BOTH SUBORDINATES OF CO; HE WAS NOT SURE WHAT THEIR LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES ARE. TAM HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN INTERPRETER DURING THE PARIS TALKS.

6. DO THANH SAID THAT HE WOULD REMAIN LIAISON OFFICER UP TO THE TIME THE FIRST TALKS TAKE PLACE. FROM THEN ON ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION WOULD BE THE POINT OF CONTACT FOR THE US LIAISON OFFICER; WHICH ONE WOULD DEPEND ON LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES.

HARLAN
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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